

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Burma - Union of

**Post:** Rangoon

### Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report - April 2011

**Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

BM 1011 Burma exported 81,307 metric tons (MT) of beans and pulses in April, an increase of 42 percent from the same period in 2009, with 52 percent going to India or 42,428 MT. Additionally, 50 percent or 14,493 MT of mung beans (green gram) were traded with China, all of it went through border trade.

**General Information:**  
**Trade**

Burma's beans and pulses exports in April 2011 totaled 81,307 MT, up 42 percent from 57,379 MT in April 2010; most of the shipments were destined to India and China. Mung bean (green gram) accounted for 37 percent of the total exports, followed by matpe (black gram) 36 percent and toor whole (pigeon pea) 14 percent. India and China were the largest buyers accounting for 42,428 MT or 52 percent and 16,418 MT or 20 percent of total exports respectively.

**Table 1. Beans and Pulses Exports by Types and Destination in April, 2011 (MT)**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Butter</b>	<b>Matpe</b>	<b>Mung</b>	<b>Toor</b>	<b>Whole</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
India		24,227	5,797		11,354	1,050	42,428
China			14,493			1,925	16,418
Indonesia		2,423	3,478				5,901
Japan		1,514	1,159			1,200	3,874
South Korea		2,120				900	3,020
Philippines			2,319			566	2,885
Taiwan			1,739			550	2,289
Pakistan						1,600	1,600
Singapore						1,350	1,350
Malaysia						1,092	1,092
Thailand						450	450
<b>Total</b>		30,284	28,986		11,354	10,683	81,307

**Table 2. Monthly Export of Pulses and Beans for 2010-2011**

<b>Months</b>	<b>2010</b>		<b>2011</b>	
	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>
January	64,576	64,576	81,145	81,145
February	125,428	190,004	87,418	168,563
March	133,315	323,319	87,129	255,692
April	57,379	380,698	81,307	336,999
May	69,025	449,723		
June	79,447	529,170		
July	72,910	602,080		
August	72,791	674,871		
September	70,381	745,252		
October	63,587	808,839		
November	46,277	855,116		
December	117,453	972,569		

<b>Total</b>	972,569		336,999	
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Average exchange rate in April: one US\$= Kyat 848

## **Export prospects**

Year- to- date exports have decreased by 11 percent from the same period in 2010. The reduction in exports can be attributed to a strong kyat with respect to the dollar. The other factor is the low quality of Burmese beans and pulses are facing stiff competition from higher quality providers such as Canada and Australia. This downward trend in exports raised the concerns of the newly appointed minister of Trade and Commerce. The minister recently stated that in order to improve beans and pulses trade, market inefficiencies must subside such as scaling back the role that intermediaries play in the market that tend to discourage farmers from pursuing higher incomes, as farmers fail to capitalize between 20-30 percent on the retail price that traders pay. This extra income would help farmers improve their agronomic practices leading to better product quality. The minister also stated that beans and pulses specialized association should be formed in order to provide short term loans to farmers, such as following the model of the agricultural development corporations that have been very successful in providing the necessary finance in rice activities.

Due to total export during initial four months of 2011 has reached 0.34 million metric tons, the annual export for the whole year on 2011 is expected to be 1 million.

End of report